STATE OF LOUISIANA

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS	* *	DOCKET NO.
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
STEPHANIE BACHEMIN	*	
	*	AGENCY TRACKING NO. 2015-042
	*	

CHARGES

The Louisiana Board of Ethics voted on December 17, 2015, to and does hereby file the following charge:

I.

Stephanie Bachemin was employed as the Executive Director of the St. Bernard Civic Center by St. Bernard Parish from January 10, 2012, until her resignation on March 5, 2014.

II.

The Saint Bernard Civic Center is owned by the St. Bernard Parish Government.

III.

Abbey Caruso and Erin Caruso are Stephanie Bachemin's daughters.

IV.

Ms. Bachemin's daughters were paid 24 times totaling \$3,188 for services performed for the St. Bernard Civic Center. Ms. Bachemin authorized the payments from the St. Bernard Civic Center

received by Abby and Erin Caruso, specifically, Abbey Caruso received 8 checks totaling \$677,50 from January 2, 2013 to December 23, 2013. Erin Caruso received 16 checks totaling \$2,510 from May 14, 2012 to November 3, 2013. The checks to Abbey and Erin Caruso were drawn on the St. Bernard Cultural Center, Inc. bank account, and each check carried the notation "Bartender Expense."

V.

La. R.S. 42:1112B(1) provides that no public servant shall participate in a transaction involving governmental entity in which a member of his immediate family has a substantial economic interest.

VI.

Based on the foregoing facts, Stephanie Bachemin, in her capacity as St. Bernard Parish Civic Center's Executive Director, violated La. R.S. 42:1112B(1) by participating in the authorization of payments from her agency to her immediate family members Abbey Caruso and Erin Caruso.

VII.

In accordance with La. R.S. 42:1141C(3)(b)(iv), the Board designates Suzanne Quinlan Mooney and Michael Dupree as the Board's trial attorney in this matter.

WHEREFORE, the Louisiana Board of Ethics requests that the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (a) conduct a hearing on the foregoing charge; (b) determine that Stephanie Bachemin violated La. R.S. 42:1112B(1) and (c) assess appropriate penalties in accordance with the recommendation of the Louisiana Board of Ethics to be submitted at the hearing.

[SIGNATURE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE]

Blake Monrose

Chairman, Louisiana Board of Ethics

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CERTIFICATE:

I hereby certify that a copy of this document has been forwarded to the Respondent by registered/certified mail in accordance with La. R.S. 42:1141E(1)(a), on this the day of December 2015.

Suzanne Quinlan Mooney Trial Attorney

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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